

# MEMBER ALERT



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## OUTBREAKS OF MEASLES

The United States Maritime Administration (MARAD) has issued a Maritime Advisory that informs of recent outbreaks of measles in countries as varied as the Democratic Republic of Congo, United Kingdom, France, Greece, Italy, Indonesia, Philippines, Romania, Serbia and the Ukraine.

Measles remains a common disease in many parts of the world. Globally, about 19 cases of measles per one million persons are reported each year: about 89,780 prove fatal. In the United States, most cases of measles result from international travel, where unvaccinated people, who become infected in other countries, spread measles to others following their arrival in the US.

Measles is a highly contagious viral disease. It remains a significant cause of death among young children globally, despite the availability of a safe and effective vaccine. Measles is transmitted via droplets from the nose, mouth or throat of infected persons. Initial symptoms, which usually appear 10–12 days after infection, include high fever, a runny nose, bloodshot eyes, and tiny white spots on the inside of the mouth. Several days later, a rash develops, starting on the face and upper neck and gradually spreading downwards.

Members are advised to follow the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines for vaccinations. Up to date travel notices regarding measles outbreaks overseas can be found at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/measles/travelers.html>.

Any questions regarding the Maritime Advisory should be directed to the CDC at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/dcs/contactus/form>.

Members are reminded that the Club maintains up-to-date information regarding outbreaks of infectious diseases affecting the maritime industry at:

[http://www.american-club.com/page/infectious\\_diseases](http://www.american-club.com/page/infectious_diseases).

Members are asked to note this information, and if further questions arise, your Managers will be pleased to respond to them.